

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☒

Property Name: Kennard Thomas Farm Inventory Number: QA-235  
Address: 931 Hope Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Centreville Zip Code: 21617 County: Queen Annes  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Centreville  
Property Owner: Charles Sparks Tax Account ID Number: 003516  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 11 and 63 Tax Map Number: 45  
Project: US 301 and MD 304 Intersection Improvements Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration  
Agency Prepared By: Maryland State Highway Administration  
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell Date Prepared: 07/10/2006  
Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form for QA-235  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes  
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

**Architectural Description**

The Kennard Thomas Farm was documented on a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form in 1983. The property owner did not respond to requests to enter the property to complete an updated survey. However, it appears as if the property is relatively unchanged since the prior documentation was completed. The MHT files contain a picture dating to spring/summer 2003 and the house retains its appearance to that time with the exception of window replacements that have been made in the intervening years. One change that has occurred is that the 2.9-acre parcel containing the house has been subdivided from the surrounding 133-acre parcel that contains agricultural outbuildings and cultivated fields. However, the same person retains ownership over both parcels and both will be evaluated as part of this Determination of Eligibility because historically the parcels were united and the buildings and landscape continue to relate to each other to form a single working farmstead.

The property is located on the north side of MD 305 to the west of US 301, approximately two miles east of Centreville. The original portion of the house was built circa 1875 and is a vernacular interpretation of a Gothic Revival cottage. (Property records indicate that this building dates to 1901, but historic maps show a house on the same site in 1877 and stylistically, 1901 would

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

**MHT Comments:**

Ann Bullock  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

B. Kuntz  
Reviewer, National Register Program

9/15/06  
Date

9/25/06  
Date

200602476

have been quite late for the construction of a Gothic Revival cottage.) The one-and-one-half story building has been covered in asbestos siding that is reminiscent of Formstone and designed to resemble brick and concrete blocks. Scalloped bargeboards and steeply pitched dormers are the only remaining features that evoke the Gothic Revival style. Replacement windows are found on select windows throughout the building.

An addition to the original house was built in 1918. The addition is attached to the original house, but essentially reads as a distinct building. It does not attempt to relate to the original house from a design perspective and employs a distinct architectural vocabulary. It is a basic I-house form that is two stories in height and covered in wood shingles. A single-story, full-width, screened front porch with a shed roof obscures the first floor.

The original MIHP form identifies the property as a farm. However, the only outbuilding that is mentioned is a small board-and-batten smokehouse, which is extant. Other agricultural buildings are also present and are all located to the northwest of the house. A gambrel-roof dairy barn with a concrete foundation and frame upper stories is present. It dates to circa 1930. A chicken house dating to circa 1940 and a shed of a slightly later vintage are also located on the farm. A recently constructed large metal building is also present within the collection of older buildings.

The land is characterized by flat topography and expansive vistas. Several mature deciduous trees are clustered close to the house. The remainder of the parcel contains cultivated agricultural fields.

#### History

The area that is now Queen Anne's County was the site of Native American settlements that took advantage of fertile soil for subsistence farming and were usually situated near fresh water sources. As European settlers arrived, hearing of the benefits of the region from various expeditions, Native Americans were displaced. The Europeans quickly realized that the area was ideal for cultivating tobacco due to the abundant supplies of timber in addition to navigable waterways and fertile soil. However, as the soil was depleted and tobacco prices declined, farmers turned to wheat and corn as their primary crops by the middle of the eighteenth century. By the second half of the nineteenth century, corn and oats were also popular crops, along with smaller acreages devoted to potatoes, sweet potatoes, peas, and beans. As transportation methods improved, fruits—most notably peaches—also became popular. In the first half of the twentieth century, many farms in the Centreville vicinity added small dairy operations to their farming.

Historic maps show the Kennard Thomas Farm (named for the owner at the time that it was surveyed in 1983) was owned by K. Brown in 1877. A house—likely the original Gothic Revival cottage—was present on the site at that time. Today, the property is owned by Charles Sparks, who purchased it from Kennard Thomas in 1988.

#### Significance Evaluation

The Kennard Thomas Farm is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It is not eligible under Criterion A because it is not associated with events that are important in history. Research does not indicate that it is associated with important people in the past. It is also not eligible under Criterion C. The Kennard Thomas Farm is a typical example of a working farm on the Eastern Shore. It contains a collection of common agricultural buildings dating from various eras. The farmhouse has been heavily compromised. The original portion has been covered in composite siding that dramatically alters its original appearance of a Gothic Revival cottage. Furthermore, an addition, which essentially reads as a distinct house stylistically, is attached to the original portion of the home. The addition is a typical I-house form that is ubiquitous in rural areas of Maryland. The property has not been evaluated under Criterion D at this time. The property lacks integrity of design, materials, workmanship, association, and

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

feeling.

It is also important to note that the parcels currently being evaluated are adjacent to the Needwood-Content Rural Historic District (QA-486). Although the Determination of Eligibility form does not expressly mention the Kennard Thomas Farm, it can be assumed that it was intentionally not included within the boundaries as a contributing resource since accepted evaluation techniques would have included evaluations of properties that border districts to preclude their inclusion. The lack of integrity mentioned above also would prevent the Kennard Thomas Farm from being considered as a potential contributing resource to the Needwood-Content Rural Historic District.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

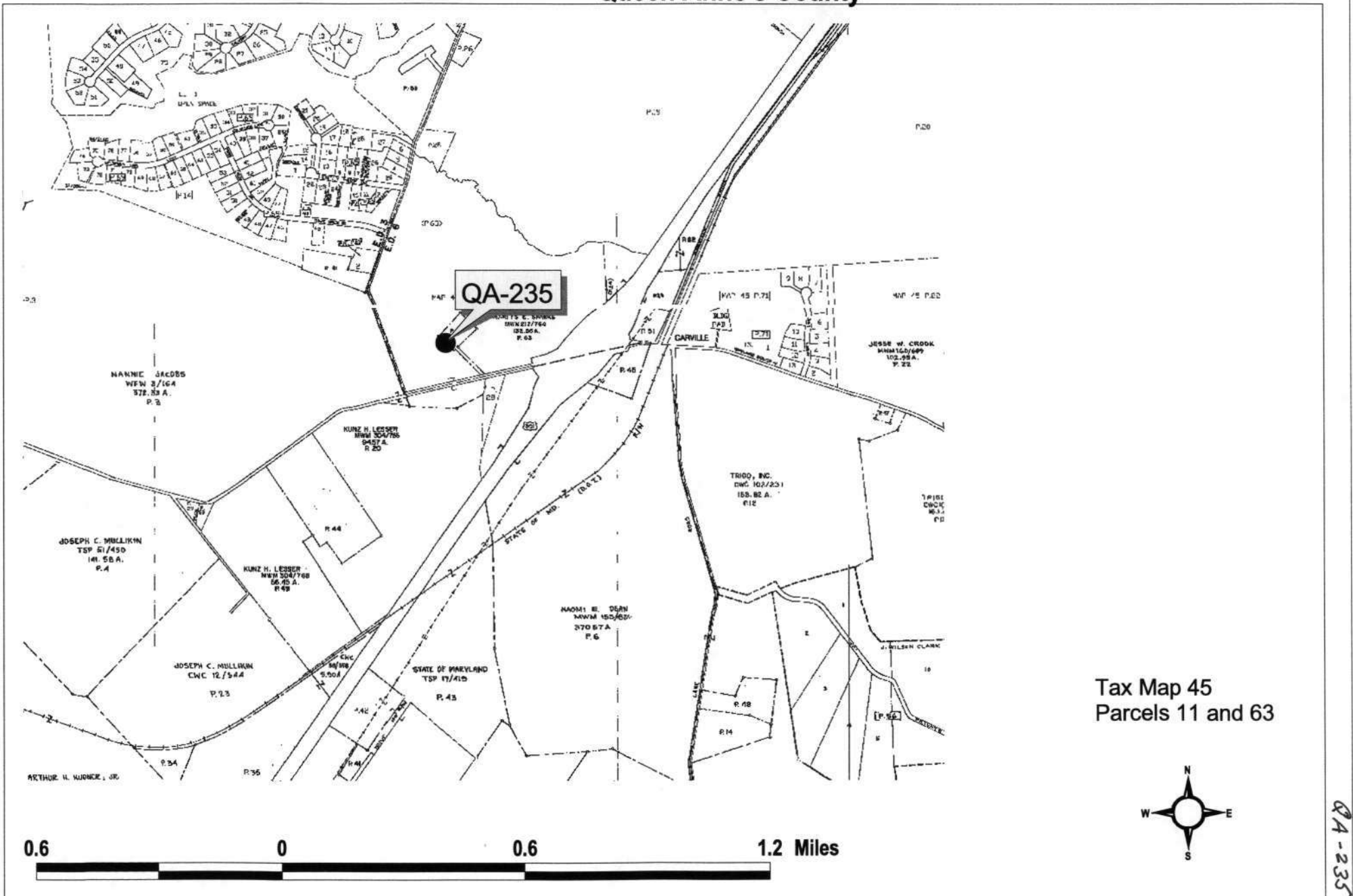
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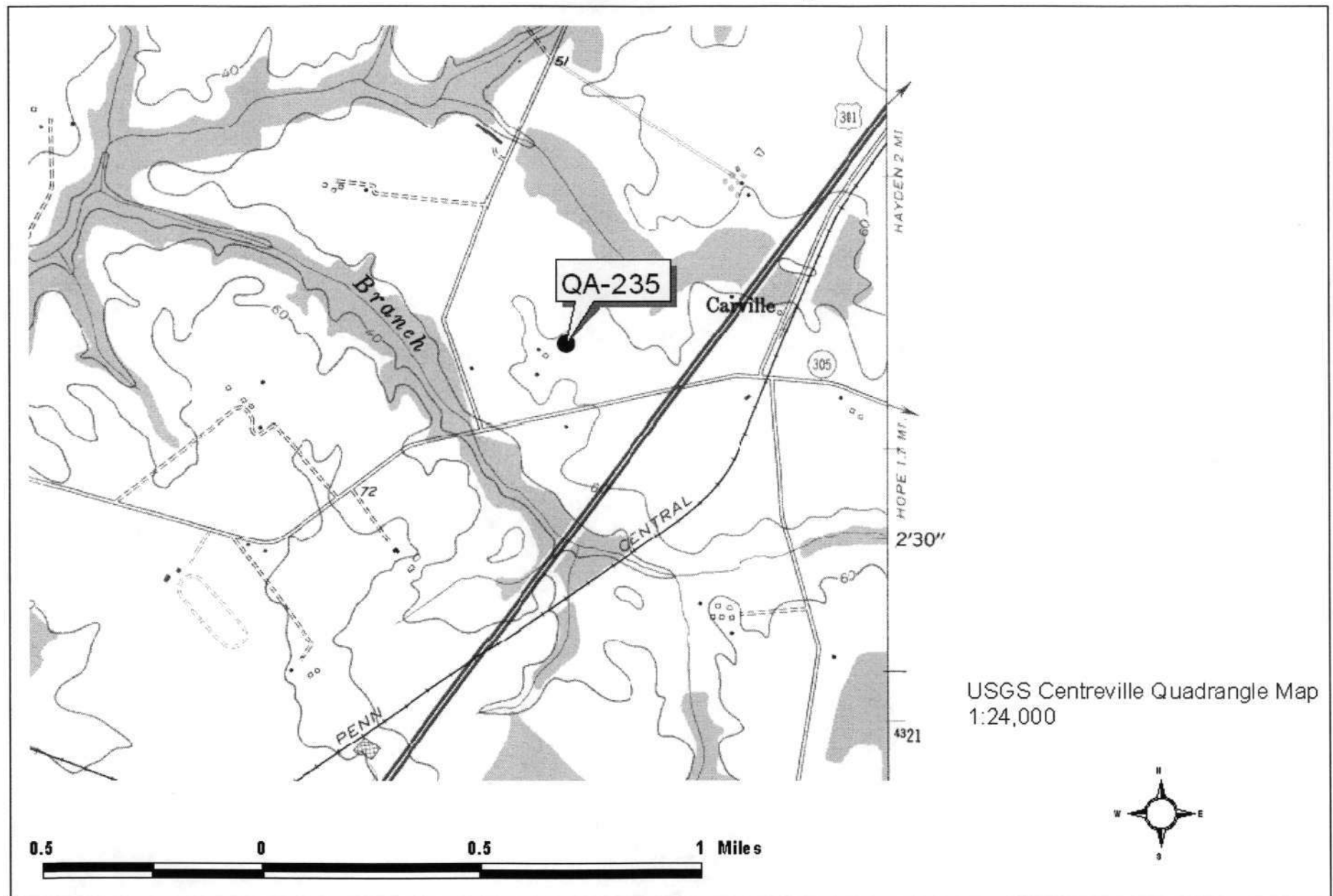
MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# QA-235--Kennard Thomas Farm 931 Hope Road Queen Anne's County



QA-235--Kenneth Thomas Farm  
931 Hope Road  
Queen Anne's County



QA-235



QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

S. Foell

6/2006

MD SHPO

View to the north

1/5







QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

S. Foll

6/2006

MD SHPO

Farmhouse - view to the north

2/5



QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

S. Foell

6/2006

MD SHPO

Agricultural Outbuildings - view to  
the northeast

3/5



QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

S. Foll

6/2006

MD SHPO

New metal outbuilding view to the  
northeast

4/5



QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm  
Queen Anne's County, MD

S. Foell

6/2006

MD SHPO

Agricultural fields - landscape  
view to the east

5/5



QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm

In form, the older part of the Kennard Thomas farm house is similar to the Robert White house on Kent Island, but the plan is entirely different. Its plan is more like several of the early houses of Centreville, with the exception of the chimney placement. The Centreville plan has one room behind the other with chimneys on the gable. The Thomas house has the chimney in the center between the two rooms. Stylistically, the Kennard Thomas House is a Gothic cottage, but with only the barest elements of the style, scalloped barge boards. The early twentieth century addition is in keeping with the vernacular quality of the house.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Kennard Thomas Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

North side of Md. Rt. #305, west of U.S. Rt. #301

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Kennard O. Thomas

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21617**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: WHC 5A

Folio #: 293

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

QA-235

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Kennard Thomas Farm is located on the north side of Md. Rt. 305 between Tanyard Road on the west and U.S. Rt. 301 on the east. It is approximately two miles east of Centreville.

The house is composed of two frame structures, the early section having been built in the third quarter 19th century and the newer part having been built in the 1910's. The early part is a 1 1/2 story two room deep Gothic cottage now covered with composition siding. The southeast facade has a central door flanked by two windows with 6/6 sash. In front of the door is an 'A' roof portico with round columns and a brick floor. In the steep roof are two large dormers with 6/6 sash and scalloped barge boards up the 'A' roof. A brick chimney pierces the roof slightly east of center and forward of the apex. The roof is covered with tin shingles.

On the southwest gable are a pair of 4/4 sash windows and a door beneath a leanto porch and a 6/6 sash window forward of the porch. On the second story are two windows centered on those below. At the apex of the gable is a smaller 6/6 sash window

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-235

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

|   |  |                           |                           |                        |
|---|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| PREHISTORIC                                   | __ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC                        | __ COMMUNITY PLANNING     | __ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | __ RELIGION            |
| __ 1400-1499                                  | __ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC                           | __ CONSERVATION           | __ LAW                    | __ SCIENCE             |
| __ 1500-1599                                  | __ AGRICULTURE                                   | __ ECONOMICS              | __ LITERATURE             | __ SCULPTURE           |
| __ 1600-1699                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | __ EDUCATION              | __ MILITARY               | __ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| __ 1700-1799                                  | __ ART   | __ ENGINEERING            | __ MUSIC                  | __ THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | __ COMMERCE                                      | __ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | __ PHILOSOPHY             | __ TRANSPORTATION      |
| __ 1900-                                      | __ COMMUNICATIONS                                | __ INDUSTRY               | __ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | __ OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | __ INVENTION              |                           |                        |

## SPECIFIC DATES

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In form, the older part of the Kennard Thomas farm house is similar to the Robert White house on Kent Island, but the plan is entirely different. Its plan is more like several of the early houses of Centreville, with the exception of the chimney placement. The Centreville plan has one room behind the other with chimneys on the gable. The Thomas house has the chimney in the center between the two rooms. Stylistically, the Kennard Thomas House is a Gothic cottage, but with only the barest elements of the style, scalloped barge boards. The early twentieth century addition is in keeping with the vernacular quality of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

QA-235

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

6/22/83

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

lighting the attic. The barge boards of the gable have a bold scallop design.

The northwest facade has two 6/6 sash windows on the east side of the facade and two dormers on the roof opposite those on the front. This wall of the house is covered with wood shingle like the adjoining two-story wing.

The wing is set back (northwest) slightly and is only one room in depth. It is two bays long with a central door on each facade. The moderately pitched roof is covered with wood shingles. Across the southeast facade of the wing is a one story leanto screened porch.

Inside, the plan of the house consists of the following. In the old section there is a living room across the southeast half of the house with a door on the dividing wall at each end of the room, the east door leading to the dining room and the west door leading to an entry and stair. The stair rises in a straight run to the second story, enclosed between two walls. Beneath the stair is a closet for the dining room. Adjacent the closet is the chimney stack, with stove fittings from both living room and dining room. The entry at the bottom of the stair is a small room with double glazed doors to the dining room. The wing

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

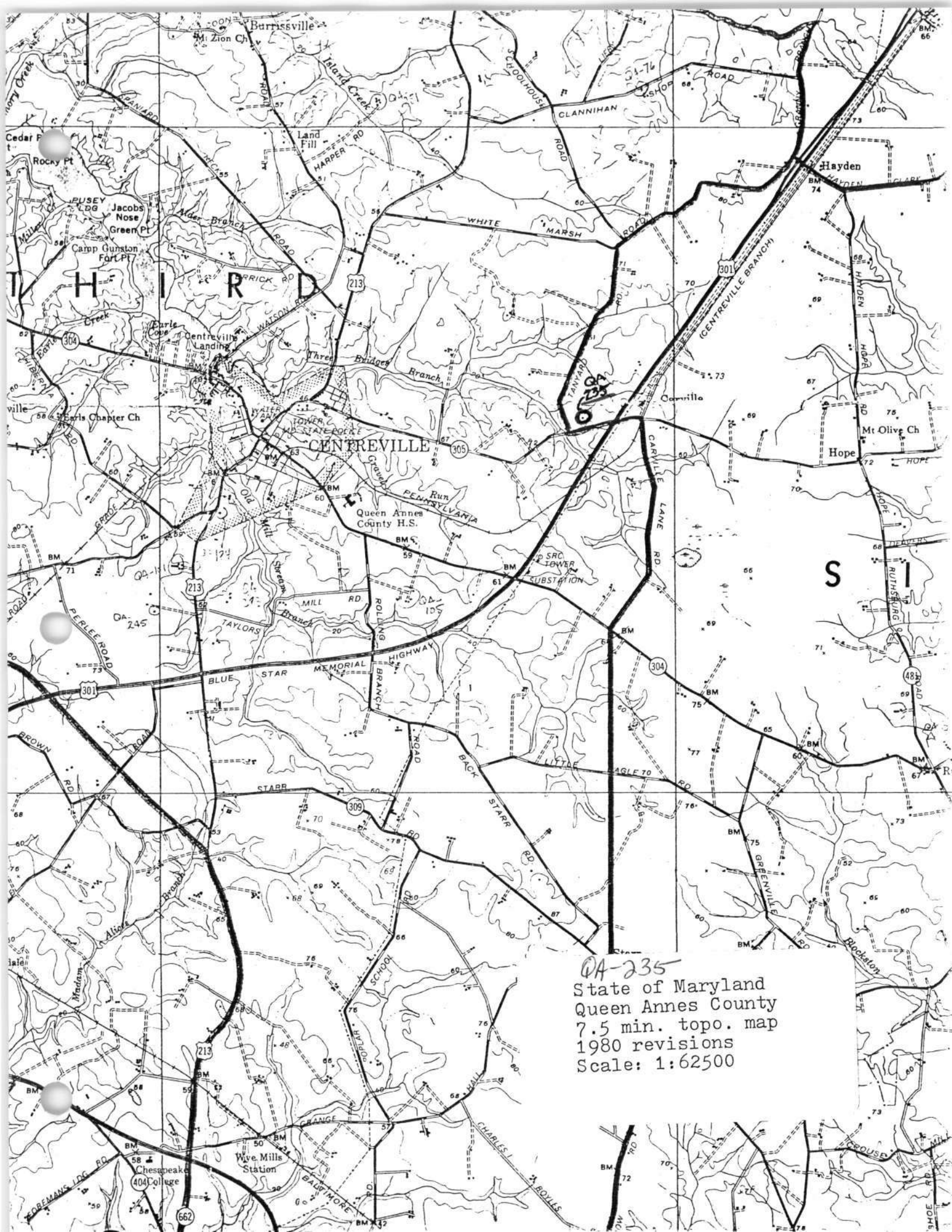
connects the dining room at the east end thereof with a passage to the kitchen. On the northwest side of the passage is a pantry. In the north corner of the kitchen is an enclosed winder stair.

All of the interior trim is very plain.

The second story plan consists of one large room above the living room and two small rooms above the dining room and entry. At the west end of the very tight passage is an enclosed winder stair to the two plastered rooms in the attic.

Northeast of the house is a small board and batten smokehouse.





QA-235  
State of Maryland  
Queen Annes County  
7.5 min. topo. map  
1980 revisions  
Scale: 1:62500

QA-235  
Kennard Thomas Farm

Mary McCarthy  
Spring/Summer 2003  
Digital color photo on file at MHT





QA-235

Kennard Thomas Farm

Michael O. Bourne

5/1983

Neg. on file @ MTT



QA-235

Ihennard Thomas Farm

Michael O. Bourne

5/1983

Neg. on file @ MHT







P.A.

QA #235

Kennard Thomas Farm

April 1974  
JWD



P. A. Kennard Thomas Farm - Hope Road

#A- 235

April 1974  
JWV